



CALIFORNIA ESSENTIAL HABITAT CONNECTIVITY PROJECT



Project Goals:

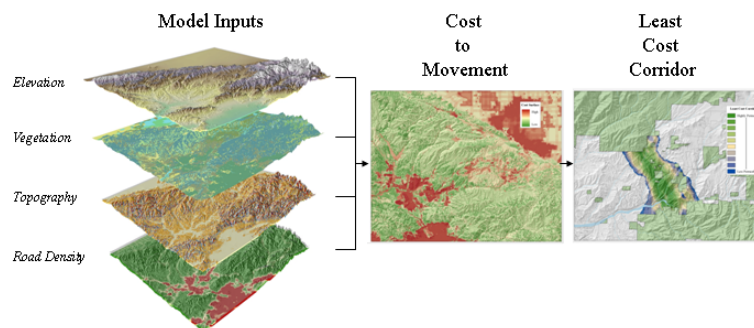
- Produce a statewide assessment of essential habitat connectivity to comply with Section 6001 of SAFETEA-LU and AB 2785, and to support the State Wildlife Action Plan
- Incorporate natural resources considerations into transportation & land use planning
- Increase the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of transportation & land use planning
- Help sustain California's unique natural heritage
- Provide framework for detailed regional studies

Approach:

- Engage Multidisciplinary Team to evaluate habitat connectivity and prioritization methods and reach consensus
- Create Statewide Connectivity Map and compare to existing conservation plans
- Develop Strategic Plan for guiding future regional connectivity analysis, planning and implementation

Technical Approach:

- Build complex GIS datasets from multiple sources
- Reach consensus on analytical approach to model statewide connectivity & determine relative biological value
- Develop transparent, scientifically-defensible, and repeatable procedure



Products:

- Statewide Habitat Connectivity Map and Model
- Relative Biological Value of Connectivity Areas
- Strategic plan that will outline the steps for completing regional connectivity analyses

Website and Contacts: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/env/bio/program_efforts.htm

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